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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/019,236	04/11/2002	Anthony R Bird	P 290458	9888
909	7590	10/02/2003	EXAMINER	
PILLSBURY WINTHROP, LLP			EVANS, CHARESSE L	
P.O. BOX 10500			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
MCLEAN, VA 22102			1615	
DATE MAILED: 10/02/2003				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/019,236	BIRD ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Charesse L. Evans	1615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2001.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1,4-13,15,16,23-26,28-30,32-36 and 39-61 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1,4-13,15,16,23-26,28-30,32-36 and 39-61 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Action Summary

Acknowledgement is made of the receipt of applicant's preliminary amendment, filed September 29, 2002.

Acknowledgement is made of the cancellation of claims 2, 3, 14, 17-22, 27, 31, 37 and 38.

Claims 1, 4-13, 15, 16, 23-26, 28-30, 32-36 and 39-61 are active in this action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each

claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1, 4-13, 15, 16, 23-26, 28-30, 32-36 and 39-61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gray et al (US 5,723,446) in view of Annison et al (US 5,840,860). The claims are directed to a composition comprising an amino acid source, a lipid source, a carbohydrate source and a fatty acid delivery agent.

Gray teaches an enteral formulation comprised of a carbohydrate source, a lipid source, a fatty acid source such as omega-3 and omega-6 (column 4, lines 1-12), and a protein source (Abstract). The disclosed composition also includes vitamins and minerals (column 4, lines 14-17). The formulation is designed to be ready-to-use, can be stored in cans and does not require reconstitution (column 3, lines 4-7).

Gray does not expressly teach that the carrier is a non-starch polysaccharide, however, Annison teaches a fatty acid delivery system comprised of a fatty acid source where the carbohydrate serves as the carrier. The disclosed fatty acids are delivered to their target sites by covalently linking the fatty acids to a carbohydrate carrier (Abstract). One of the preferred carriers is starch because it can be fermented by microorganisms in the colon. The starch may be a starch that is digestible in the small intestine as well as resistance to digestion in the small intestine (column 7, lines 19-29). The starch may also include modified starch, either by physical processes,

enzymatic, esterification, or oxidation (column 7, lines 32-35). The bond between the fatty acid and the carrier is preferably an ester bond (column 8, line 55). The degree of substitution is in the range of 0.05 to 2 (column 9, line 30).

One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to combine the teachings of the cited references with the expectation of enhancing the nutritional value of the formulation.

Conclusion

No claims are allowed at this time.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charesse L. Evans whose telephone number is 703-308-6400. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 7:00a - 4:30p; Alternating Fridays 7:00a - 3:30p.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thurman K. Page can be reached on 703-308-2927. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1235.

Charesse L. Evans
Examiner
Art Unit: 1615

September 30, 2003

THURMAN K. PAGE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600